

1 SUB A1 1. A method comprising:  
2 receiving a dedicated inventory allocation;  
3 completing a plurality of on-line transactions  
4 against said allocation; and  
5 requesting additional dedicated inventory  
6 allocation.

Sal 1 2. The method of claim 1 further including  
2 maintaining a count of available inventory allocation and  
3 decrementing said count as each on-line transaction is  
4 completed.

Sub B1 1 3. The method of claim 1 wherein receiving a  
2 dedicated inventory allocation includes receiving an  
3 inventory allocation from a remote site.

Sub A2 1 4. The method of claim 1 wherein receiving a  
2 dedicated inventory allocation includes receiving said  
3 allocation over a network.

1 5. The method of claim 4 wherein receiving a  
2 dedicated inventory allocation includes receiving said  
3 allocation over the Internet.

1 6. The method of claim 1 wherein requesting an  
2 additional dedicated inventory allocation includes

3 determining whether the inventory allocation needs to be  
4 replenished.

1 7. The method of claim 6 wherein determining whether  
2 the inventory allocation needs to be replenished includes  
3 determining whether the existing allocation has been  
4 reduced below a preset level.

1 8. The method of claim 6 wherein determining whether  
2 the inventory allocation needs to be replenished includes  
3 implementing a dynamic calculation that considers the rate  
4 at which on-line transactions are being completed.

1 9. The method of claim 8 including utilizing the  
2 rate at which transactions are completed and the rate at  
3 which additional inventory is to be requested to determine  
4 whether the inventory allocation needs to be replenished.

1 10. An article comprising a medium for storing  
2 instructions that cause a processor-based system to:  
3 receive a dedicated inventory allocation;  
4 complete a plurality of on-line transactions  
5 against said allocation; and  
6 request additional dedicated inventory  
7 allocation.



1           17. The article of claim 15 further storing  
2 instructions that cause a processor-based system to  
3 implement a dynamic calculation that considers the rate at  
4 which on-line transactions are being completed.

1           18. The article of claim 17 further storing  
2 instructions that cause a processor-based system to utilize  
3 the rate at which transactions are completed and the rate  
4 at which additional inventory is to be requested to  
5 determine whether the inventory allocation needs to be  
6 replenished.

1           19. A system comprising:  
2           a server that completes a plurality of on-line  
3 transactions;  
4           a memory coupled to said server that stores an  
5 inventory allocation; and  
6           said server decrements said inventory allocation  
7 with each transaction, monitors the inventory allocation  
8 and automatically requests an additional inventory  
9 allocation.

1           20. The system of claim 19 wherein said server is  
2 coupled to the Internet and completes transactions over the  
3 Internet.

Sub 1  
21. The system of claim 19 wherein said server  
dynamically determines when to request additional inventory  
allocation based at least in part on the rate at which  
transactions are being completed.

22. The system of claim 21 wherein said server  
requests additional inventory allocation based at least in  
part on a predetermined frequency for requests for  
additional inventory allocation.

Sub 23. A method comprising:  
providing a dedicated inventory allocation;  
receiving a request for an additional dedicated  
inventory allocation; and  
providing an additional dedicated inventory  
allocation.

Sub 24. A method of claim 23 further including providing  
a frequency for requests for additional allocation.

Sub 25. A method of claim 23 including providing said  
inventory allocation over the Internet.

26. An article for comprising a medium that stores  
instructions that cause a processor-based system to:

3 provide a dedicated inventory allocation;  
4 receive a request for additional dedicated  
5 inventory allocation; and  
6 provide additional dedicated inventory  
7 allocation.

1 27. The article of claim 26 further storing  
2 instructions that cause a processor-based system to provide  
3 a frequency for requests for additional allocation.

1 28. The article of claim 26 further storing  
2 instructions that cause a processor-based system to provide  
3 said inventory allocation over the Internet.

1 *Sub B3* 29. A system comprising:  
2 a server; and  
3 a storage storing software that causes said  
4 server to provide a dedicated inventory allocation, receive  
5 a request for an additional dedicated inventory allocation,  
6 and provide an additional dedicated inventory allocation.

1 *Sub D cont* 30. The system of claim 29 wherein said server is  
2 coupled to the Internet.